

NEWS RELEASE

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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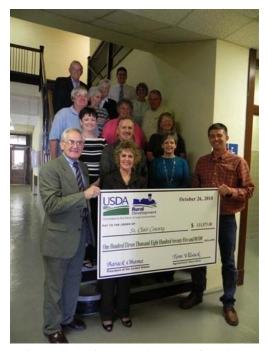
## ST. CLAIR COUNTY GETS GRANTS TO REPAIR COURTHOUSE

Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, Missouri State Director, USDA Rural Development presented St. Clair County with a mock check for \$111,785 on October 26, 2010. The funds were awarded to the county to make repairs to the St. Clair County Courthouse, part of which has been in existence since prior to the Civil War. The assistance consists of a Community Facility Grant for \$73,500 and an Economic Impact Initiative Grant (EII) for \$38,375 from USDA, Rural Development, for a total of \$111,875 in assistance. St. Clair County provided \$112,755 of the needed \$224,630.

"The deadly attack in an Atlanta courthouse was a wake-up call that courthouse improvements – small or large – can't be put on the back burner," said U.S. Senator Kit Bond. "These federal dollars will fund much needed repairs at the St. Clair County courthouse."

"With the help of competitive grant funds provided by the USDA, the county of St. Clair will be able to make repairs to the county courthouse," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "Maintaining our judicial buildings is an investment in the future of the community and will help ensure that justice continues to be properly served in St. Clair County."

"County courthouses are important parts of the community infrastructure in places like St. Clair County. Without an adequate facility, the county government would be unable to perform its duties. That's why I am so pleased that this federal grant will help St. Clair County make needed improvements to this building," said Skelton.



Pictured, starting at the bottom left, going up and down: David Rauch, Office of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; Kim Burton, Area III Specialist, Rural Development; Gerald Williams, South Side Commissioner; Larry Wilson, MO State Representative, 119<sup>th</sup> District; Barbara Tabor, Circuit Clerk; Gail Engle, Treasurer; Janie Dunning, State Director, Missouri Rural Development; Kelly Gregory, Area III Director, Rural Development; Pat Terry, Recorder of Deeds; Travis Tindall, Architect, Jennifer Wilson Architects; Sharon Foster,

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of a community in providing essential repairs to a public building," said Dunning. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked

together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that the residents of St. Clair County will benefit from these repairs to the courthouse. Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials for making available the federal funds for these kinds of projects."

Anyone seeking more information about the Community Facility Program or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <a href="http://www.rurdev.gov/mo">http://www.rurdev.gov/mo</a> or by contacting the Clinton Area Office at 1306 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Clinton, MO 64735 or by calling (660) 885-5567- ext 5.

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